



PATENT

Case Docket No. ENDIUS.027CPC1

Date: November 6, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| Applicants | : | Gene P. DiPoto |
| Appl. No. | : | 10/686,063 |
| Filed | : | October 15, 2003 |
| For | : | CANNULA FOR RECEIVING SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS |
| Examiner | : | Unknown |
| Group Art Unit | : | Unknown |

TRANSMITTAL LETTER


Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

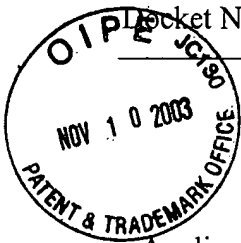
Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement;
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with eighty (80) references, twenty (20) of which are enclosed; and
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.


Andrew M. Douglas
Registration No. 51,212
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

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Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing 80 references. Copies of disclosed U.S. patents and/or publications are not included pursuant to PTO waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for applications filed after June 30, 2003. Copies of all other references, if listed, are enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application and no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), (b)(2), or (b)(4).

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: November 6, 2003

By: Andrew M. Douglas

Andrew M. Douglas
Registration No. 51,212
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
ENDIUS.027CPC1APPLICATION NO.
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BY APPLICANT

(SEE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT
DiPotoFILING DATE
10/15/03GROUP
Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE) |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|----------|----------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 1 | US 1.170.324 | 2/1/16 | Pomerene | | | |
| | 2 | US 3.044.461 | 7/17/62 | Murdock | | | |
| | 3 | US 3.503.398 | 3/31/70 | Fogarty et al. | | | |
| | 4 | US 3.789.852 | 2/5/74 | Kim et al. | | | |
| | 5 | US 4.449.532 | 5/22/84 | Storz | | | |
| | 6 | US 4.451.256 | 5/29/84 | Weigl et al. | | | |
| | 7 | US 4.545.374 | 10/8/85 | Jacobson | | | |
| | 8 | US 4.601.713 | 7/22/86 | Fuqua | | | |
| | 9 | US 4.716.901 | 1/5/88 | Jackson et al. | | | |
| | 10 | US 4.863.133 | 9/5/89 | Bonnell | | | |
| | 11 | US 4.899.729 | 2/13/90 | Gill et al. | | | |
| | 12 | US 4.921.478 | 5/1/90 | Solano et al. | | | |
| | 13 | US 4.984.564 | 1/15/91 | Yuen | | | |
| | 14 | US 5.139.511 | 8/18/92 | Gill et al. | | | |
| | 15 | US 5.163.949 | 11/17/92 | Bonutti | | | |
| | 16 | US 5.190.561 | 3/2/93 | Graber | | | |
| | 17 | US 5.196.023 | 3/23/93 | Martin | | | |
| | 18 | US 5.197.971 | 3/30/93 | Bonutti | | | |
| | 19 | US 5.295.994 | 3/22/94 | Bonutti | | | |
| | 20 | US 5.312.417 | 5/17/94 | Wilk | | | |
| | 21 | US 5.313.962 | 5/24/94 | Obenchain | | | |
| | 22 | US 5.354.302 | 10/11/94 | Ko | | | |
| | 23 | US 5.370.647 | 12/6/94 | Graber et al. | | | |
| | 24 | US 5.370.659 | 12/6/94 | Sakashita | | | |
| | 25 | US 5.417.203 | 5/23/95 | Tovey et al. | | | |
| | 26 | US 5.443.479 | 8/22/95 | Bressi, Jr. | | | |
| | 27 | US 5.439.464 | 8/8/95 | Shapiro | | | |
| | 28 | US 5.454.365 | 10/3/95 | Bonutti | | | |

EXAMINER

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*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.



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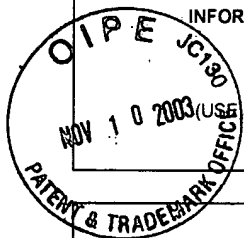
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|---------------------|----|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 29 | US 5.490.819 | 2/13/96 | Nicholas et al. | | | |
| | 30 | US 5.529.571 | 6/25/96 | Daniel | | | |
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| | 34 | US 5.707.359 | 1/13/98 | Bufalini | | | |
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| | 36 | US 5.782.919 | 7/21/98 | Zdeblick et al. | | | |
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| | 38 | US 5.795.289 | 8/18/98 | Wytttenbach | | | |
| | 39 | US 5.827.319 | 10/27/98 | Carlson et al. | | | |
| | 40 | US 5.851.214 | 12/22/98 | Larsen et al. | | | |
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| | 42 | US 5.954.635 | 9/21/99 | Foley et al. | | | |
| | 43 | US 5.961.499 | 10/5/99 | Bonutti et al. | | | |
| | 44 | US 5.976.161 | 11/2/99 | Kirsch et al. | | | |
| | 45 | US 5.997.508 | 12/7/99 | Lunn et al. | | | |
| | 46 | US 6.120.437 | 9/19/00 | Yoon et al. | | | |
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| | 51 | US 6.187.000 | 2/13/01 | Davison et al. | | | |
| | 52 | US 6.312.443 B1 | 11/6/01 | Stone | | | |
| | 53 | US 6.338.730 B1 | 1/15/02 | Bonutti et al. | | | |
| | 54 | US 6.371.968 B1 | 4/16/02 | Kogasaka et al. | | | |
| | 55 | US 6.383.195 B1 | 5/7/02 | Richard | | | |
| | 56 | US 6.494.893 B2 | 12/17/02 | Dubrul et al. | | | |

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|---------------------|----|--------------------|---------|----------------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| | 57 | US 6.524.320 | 2/25/03 | DiPoto | | | |
| | 58 | US 2002/0002360 A1 | 1/3/02 | Orth et al. | | | |
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| | 60 | US 2003/0014068 A1 | 1/16/03 | Bonutti et al. | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|---------------------|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | 61 | EP 0807415 A2 | 19/11/97 | EPO | | | | |
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| | 63 | WO 01/54560 A2 | 2/8/01 | PCT | | | | |

| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.) | |
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| | 64 | Ditsworth, David A., M.D., <i>Surg Neurol</i> , 49: 588-598, 1998 "Endoscopic Transforaminal Lumbar Discectomy and Reconfiguration: A Postero-lateral Approach into the Spinal Canal" |
| | 65 | Endius Marketing Bulletin, 2002, Atavi Atraumatic Spine Fusion System "How do I decompress using Atavi System?" |
| | 66 | Endius Marketing Bulletin, 2002, Atavi Atraumatic Spine Fusion System "Minimally Invasive Update on Danek" |
| | 67 | Foley, Kevin T., M.D., Gupta, Sanjay K., M.D., Justis, Jeff R., B.S., Sherman, Michael C., M.S., <i>Neurosurg Focus</i> , 10: 1-8, 2001 "Percutaneous pedicle screw fixation of the lumbar spine" |
| | 68 | Guiot, Bernard H., M.D., Khoo, Larry T., M.D., Fessler, Richard G., M.D., Ph.D., <i>SPINE</i> , 27, 4: 432-438, 2002 "A Minimally Invasive Technique for Decompression of the Lumbar Spine" |
| | 69 | Kambin, Parviz, Publisher Unknown, Chapter 77, 1055-1066, Date Unknown "Arthroscopic Lumbar Interbody Fusion" |
| | 70 | Kambin, Parviz, <i>The Adult Spine: Principles and Practice</i> , 2 nd edition; Lippincott-Raven, 2037-2046, 1997 "Arthroscopic Lumbar Intervertebral Fusion" |
| | 71 | Kambin, Parviz, <i>The Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine</i> , 58, 2: 159-164, 1991 "Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy" |
| | 72 | Kambin, Parviz, <i>Operative Arthroscopy</i> , Second Edition, 89:1215-1225, 1996 "Arthroscopic Techniques for Spinal Surgery" |

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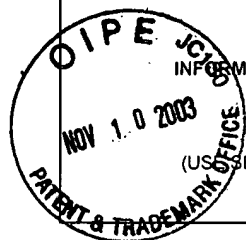
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|---------------------|--|
| 73 | Kambin, Parviz, <i>Neurosurgery Clinics of North America</i> , 7(1): 65-76, 1996 "Diagnostic and Therapeutic Spinal Arthroscopy" |
| 74 | Kambin, Parviz, Publisher Unknown, Chapter 9:117-121, Date Unknown "Posterolateral Percutaneous Lumbar Interbody Fusion" |
| 75 | Kambin, Parviz, <i>Advances in Operative Orthopaedics</i> , 3:147-171, 1995 "The Role of Minimally Invasive Surgery in Spinal Disorders" |
| 76 | Medtronic Sofamor Danek, <i>METRx MicroEndoscopic Discectomy</i> , 1999 "An Evolution in Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery" |
| 77 | Medtronic Sofamor Danek, <i>METRx MicroDiscectomy System</i> , 2000 "The Next Step in Minimally Invasive Discectomy Utilizing The Operating Microscope" |
| 78 | Medtronic Sofamor Danek, <i>METRx Microdiscectomy Surgical Technique</i> , 2001 as described by: Donald L. Hilton, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S. and Sylvain Palmer, M.D., F.A.C.S. |
| 79 | Medtronic Sofamor Danek, <i>Orthopedics Today</i> , 1-20, 2002 "Minimal Access Spinal Technologies" |
| 80 | Stauber, Martin H., M.D., Bassett, George S., M.D., <i>SPINE</i> , 19, 1: 57-61, 1994 "Pedicule Screw Placement With Intraosseous Endoscopy" |

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